

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Page 7**, line 25, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The barrier coat is preferably formed of a component selected from the group consisting of the compounds TiN, TiC, TiCN, ~~TiAlN~~ TiAlN, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, SiO<sub>2</sub> and CrN.